REMARKS

Claims 1, 23, and 24 have been amended to clarify the subject matter regarded as the invention. Claims 1-25 remain pending.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Kumar.

The rejection is respectfully traversed. With respect to claim 1, Kumar teaches combining images using parallax-based image processing to generate a three dimensional mosaic comprising an image mosaic representing a panoramic view of a scene and a shape mosaic representing the three dimensional geometry of the scene. Kumar at 2:34-38. The Office Action relies on the image mosaic, as shown in Figure 2 of Kumar, in rejecting claim 1. Office Action at p. 3. In particular, the Office Action, at page 2, identifies element 200_2 as an "active image" as recited in claim 1. Kumar, however, teaches nothing more than a particular technique for generating a static panoramic display having no "active image" as recited in claim 1. Kumar teaches an image processing system that receives a series of input images, performs extensive processing to integrate them into a static mosaic, and then provides the static mosaic as output suitable for display on an output device. Kumar at 5:13-29 (in general); 6:67-7:10 & 9:6-11 (sequential registration process); 9:28-33 & 9:53-58 (simultaneous registration process). Kumar describes incorporating a new image into a previously generated static mosaic, but there again Kumar teaches integrating the new image into the mosaic first, and then providing a "corrected" static mosaic as output. Kumar at 11:27-32.

To further clarify the absence in Kumar of an "active display" as recited in claim 1, claim 1 has been amended to recite, "that the series of active images comprise a moving video image of at least those portions of successive frames of visual data that overlap," and "displaying one or more context images while said series of active images is displayed, each context image being at

least part of an image represented by a previously displayed frame of the set of temporally sequential frames of visual data, said frame no longer corresponding to an active image such that the context image is displayed as a static image; whereby the one or more context images are displayed statically to provide context for the series of active images displayed as a moving video image." The above-quoted recitations in claim 1 make even more clear that Kumar does not teach an "active image" as recited in claim 1, because Kumar does not teach displaying a series of active images as a moving video image and instead teaches only combining images to create a static mosaic for subsequent display. As such, claim 1 is believed to be allowable.

Claims 2-22 and claim 25 depend from claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Claims 23 and 24 have been amended in the same manner as claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Reconsideration of the application and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested based on the preceding remarks. If at any time the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Twice Amended) A method for producing a visual display of a panoramic region from a set of temporally sequential frames of visual data, each frame of visual data representing an image defining a region within the panoramic region such that at least two of the images define regions that do not coincide, the method comprising the steps of:

displaying a series of active images generated from multiple temporally sequential frames of visual data, such that the series of active images comprise a moving video image of at least those portions of successive frames of visual data that overlap;

positioning each displayed image on a display screen with respect to the position of other displayed images on the display screen in accordance with the spatial relationship in the panoramic region of the content of the displayed image to the content of the other displayed images; and

displaying one or more context images while [an] said series of active [image] images is displayed, each context image being at least part of an image represented by a previously displayed frame of the set of temporally sequential frames of visual data, said frame no longer corresponding to an active image such that the context image is displayed as a static image;

whereby the one or more context images are displayed statically to provide context for the series of active images displayed as a moving video image.

23.   (Twice Amended) A system for producing a visual display of a panoramic region from a set of temporally sequential frames of visual data, each frame of visual data representing an image defining a region within the panoramic region such that at least two of the images define regions that do not coincide, the system comprising:

means for displaying a series of active images generated from multiple temporally sequential frames of visual data, such that the series of active images comprise a moving video image of at least those portions of successive frames of visual data that overlap;

means for positioning each displayed image on a display screen with respect to the position of other displayed images on the display screen in accordance with the spatial relationship in the panoramic region of the content of the displayed image to the content of the other displayed images; and

means for displaying one or more context images while [an] said series of active [image] images is displayed, each context image being at least part of an image represented by a previously displayed frame of the set of temporally sequential frames of visual data, said frame no longer corresponding to an active image such that the context image is displayed as a static image;

whereby the one or more context images are displayed statically to provide context for the series of active images displayed as a moving video image.

24. (Twice Amended) A computer readable storage medium on which is stored one or more computer programs for producing a visual display of a panoramic region from a set of temporally sequential frames of visual data, each frame of visual data representing an image defining a region within the panoramic region such that at least two of the images define regions that do not coincide, the one or more computer programs comprising:

instructions for displaying a series of active images generated from multiple temporally sequential frames of visual data, such that the series of active images comprise a moving video image of at least those portions of successive frames of visual data that overlap;

instructions for positioning each displayed image on a display screen with respect to the position of other displayed images on the display screen in accordance with the spatial relationship in the panoramic region of the content of the displayed image to the content of the other displayed images; and

instructions for displaying one or more context images while [an] <u>said series of</u> active [image] <u>images</u> is displayed, each context image being at least part of an image represented by a <u>previously displayed</u> frame of the set of temporally sequential frames of visual data<u>, said frame no longer corresponding to an active image such that the context image is displayed as a static image;</u>

<u>whereby the one or more context images are displayed statically to provide context for the series of active images displayed as a moving video image</u>.